

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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R 142120Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3299

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6145

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12/31/79

TAGS: PFOR, ECON, NATO

SUBJ: ECONADS: SWEDISH PROPOSAL CONCERNING DEFENSE EXPENDITURES

ED/EC/72/118

GENEVA FOR US DEL CSCE

REF: A) USNATO 5913; B) USNATO 5954; C) USNATO 5552

1. AT DEC 13 MEETING, ECONADS DISCUSSED ECONOMIC SECRETARIAT ANALYSIS OF SWEDISH PROPOSAL CONCERNING DEFENSE EXPENDITURE WHICH UNDERTAKEN AT REQUEST OF POLADS (SEE REFS A AND B).

2. TURKISH DEL AGREED COMPLETELY WITH REPORT AS DRAFTED AND RECOMMENDED IT BE SENT FORWARD TO POLADS. FRG DEL SAID GERMAN AUTHORITIES WOULD LIKE DELETION OF PARA 10 BUT OTHERWISE HAD NO COMMENT ON REPORT. NETHERLANDS DEL, ON OTHER HAND, NOTED THAT USSR HAD ALREADY REJECTED SWEDISH PROPOSAL IN GENEVA; AND THEREFORE, GON BELEIVED WEST SHOULD SUPPORT SWEDISH PROPOSAL AND HAD ALREADY SAID SO PUBLICLY. UK DEL AGREED GENERALLY WITH DUTCH POSITION, AND SAID HMG WAS UNHAPPY WITH NEGATIVE TONE OF SECTIONS III AND IV (COMMENTS AND CONCLUSIONS) OF REPORT. HE SAID UK BELIEVED WEST COULD EASILY  
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COUNTER ANY PROSPECTIVE PROPAGANDA USE OF SWEDISH PROPOSAL BY USSR, AND THAT ECONAD STUDY SHOULD INDICATE DANGERS IN MILITARY BUDGET COMPARISONS WITHOUT DRAWING POLITICAL CONCLUSIONS.

3. US DEL SAID THAT WHILE HE WAS WITHOUT SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, DRAFT REPORT GENERALLY REFLECTED VIEW OF USG AND CONCLUSIONS OF PREVIOUS ECONOMIC COMMITTEE STUDIES THAT COMPARISON OF WESTERN AND SOVIET MILITARY BUDGETS WAS ENTIRELY MISLEADING. HE AGREED THAT COMMENTS CONTAINED IN SECTION III OF REPORT WENT BEYOND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS REQUESTED BY POLADS AND SHOULD BE DELETED. HE SUGGESTED THAT CONCLUSION (PRESENT SECTION IV) SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT SOVIET BUDGET VASTLY UNDERSTATES USSR DEFENSE EFFORT, AND THAT THIS POINT SHOULD BE MADE WITH REFERENCE TO RECENTLY APPROVED STUDY ON SOVIET DEFENSE EXPENDITURES (SEE REF C).

4. SINCE POLADS HAVE REQUESTED ANALYSIS BY ECONOMIC COMMITTEE FOR USE IN POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DEC 18, ECONADS AGREED SEND REPORTREVISED ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY US DEL. RUMSFELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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